GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3804
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2009
AIR SERVICES TO TOURIST PLACES
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any special scheme for air service to tourist sports and pilgrimage destinations for the growth of Tourism Industry;

(b) if so, the concessions likely to be given to the tourists/pilgrims under this scheme;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the adverse effects on the tourism industry due to steep hike in fares by the airlines and the competition caused by the private sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a):- No, Sir. However, Govt. has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.

(b):- Concessions to the tourist/pilgrims are commercial matter of airlines.

(c) to (e):- Domestic air fares are not being regulated by the Government. Domestic airlines are free to charge air fare as per the market forces.